

SLINGSHOT

Vol. 1 No. 13

Friday, August 12

Berkeley, California

HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT DAY

WHEREAS, there is a national campaign by city and state governments, and housing advocates to preserve affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, adequate shelter is a most basic need and without shelter an individual cannot realize his or her own potential; and

WHEREAS,

in the City of Berkeley, more than 1,000 individuals are homeless and many more are without adequate housing; and

WHEREAS, 1987 has been declared the Year of Sheltering the Homeless, the United Nations.

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides for every person having "the right to a standard of living adequate for survival,...including...housing"; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

that I Loni Hancock, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby proclaim November 14, 1987 as "Housing Is A Human Right Day" in the City of Berkeley and encourage that all citizens work together to ensure the right to housing for every member of the community.

FOR SALE



City of Berkeley
Proclamation

Loni Hancock
Mayor

Loni Hancock
Loni Hancock, Mayor

Evicted From Under the Stars?

Loniville, the tent-city of the homeless that was located in Martin Luther King Park since March 27 was raided by the police. About 50 police officers forced the Lonivillers out of the park around 2 A.M. on Wednesday morning and arrested two of them. The city gave the squatters a one day eviction notice after they spent more than four months in the park.

Sean Gordon, assistant city manager, defended the city's actions by saying that there was a lot of alcohol and violence in the park. But as long as there are people for whom society can't find a use for, or in other words, people the capitalist system can't profit from (unless they are needed to clean

up the asbestos in the buildings) there will be drug abuse and violence in the streets. These problems are not going to go away after Loniville is gone. They will continue to spread hand in hand with the spreading of homelessness in the U.S. cities and with the way we treat our fellow humans once they lost their jobs and homes. Most of the violence came from the outside anyway and a community like Loniville is more likely to deal with violence because they can get together, defend themselves and protect each other, as opposed to individuals on the streets faced with violence that often comes from the police.

I believe the real reason behind the bust is
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New York Riots Over Park Closing

The largest riots since the anti-Vietnam War protests erupted in New York's East Village late Saturday night after police attempted to enforce a 1 a.m. curfew at Thompson Square Park. 450 cops in riot gear and wielding nightsticks charged into crowds and some protesters threw what they could in a series of street skirmishes that lasted from midnight until dawn.

Amid wailing sirens, glaring emergency lights and floodlit streets glittering with broken glass shards and other debris, the demonstrators formed, clashed, retreated and reformed a half dozen times during the riot. Because of the militant resistance, Mayor Koch was forced to reverse the police order and suspend indefinitely the enforcement of the nightly curfew at the park.

Witnesses said protestors and bystanders alike were knocked to the ground, shoved into buildings and doorways and struck repeatedly with nightsticks by helmeted officers, some of whom shouted obscenities. People streaked with blood told of being attacked without provocation by officers.

"The police panicked and were beating up bystanders who had done nothing wrong and were just observing," said Allen Ginsberg, the poet, who lives in the area. He said a houseguest from Kansas was surrounded by six police officers during one police charge

and was beaten with clubs.

At 11:15 demonstrators staged a rally inside the park. Then after marching around the park they moved out into the street where they were met by a group of about 100 men who carried guns and wore uniforms. After an initial confrontation the police captain summoned an additional 350 cops from the Manhattan North and Brooklyn North commands.

The number of protestors was unclear. The police said they numbered more than 700, but reporters saw no more than 100 people gathered at any one spot after the first rally.

As clashes continued, witnesses said many bystanders were attacked by the police. Rudolph Pippei, who said he was the owner of the Tunnel Club, told a reporter that he was attacked without provocation by five police officers who hit him with nightsticks in the face, throat, arms and legs.

A photographer for The New York Times saw the police beat a couple who emerged from a grocery store. As he took pictures of the beating, he was shoved and clubbed by an officer. A Daily News reporter was pushed and struck on the head. Both were wearing press identity cards.

The violence left 44 people cut and bruised and nine under arrest on riot, assault, and other charges. No police were arrested even though they did most of the assaulting. By Wednesday night 73 complaints of police brutality had been filed with the Civilian Complaint Review Board alone.

Most of those arrested were released on their own recognizance in Criminal Court hearings, and some returned to the scene of the action: a community unique for its rebellious political character, a place where a noise curfew is a virtual assault on civil liberties.

"Why did it happen here?" asked Parks
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NAGASAKI...

Tuesday, August 9 marked the 43rd anniversary of the U.S. bombing of Nagasaki, Japan. This bombing followed by 2 days the bombing of Hiroshima.

Hiroshima Day was commemorated on campus Sunday by a group that often stages protests, on the West Lawn of campus, of UC's involvement with the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. This group of Quakers was supplemented by protestors of various persuasions on Hiroshima Day.

U.C. Berkeley's own Socrates, Stoney Burke, accompanied a tour group after a portion of his usual noon seminar (in summer, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday) in front of Dwinelle Hall, as a way of commemorating Nagasaki Day. The tour proceeded to the 3rd floor of Gilman Hall, to view the National Park Service Plaque

commemorating the discovery of plutonium there in 1935. Former UC professor, and "Father of the atomic bomb," Robert Oppenheimer, was credited

with the discovery. This event, the plaque reads, was of national significance.

This plaque is truly a notable Berkeleyan landmark. It is an attestation to UC's close involvement both in the invention of nuclear science, and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. By its continual involvement in the Lawrence Berkeley Weapons Labs, and by promotion of warfare technology, UC Berkeley actively sponsors a form of "nuclear terrorism" by which the U.S. holds the world hostage.

The U.S. is the only nation which has used a nuclear weapon. Our slaughter of thousands of innocent Japanese, not to mention poisoning and maiming of thousands of others who did not die of exposure to the horrors of exposure to

...NEVER AGAIN

radiation, surely equals in horror the worst excesses of the Nazis. Can't you see?

The tour group members wished to present a petition afterwards to Chancellor Ira Heyman protesting UC's involvement in weapons research and construction in remembrance of Nagasaki Day. But when they proceeded to California Hall to deliver the petition, signed by students and others, to Heyman's office, they were ushered out of the foyer by the two UC Berkeley police people stationed there, while Stoney Burke was

stationed there, while Stoney Burke was unceremoniously and forcibly taken hold of and almost dragged down the stairs which he had

precipitously mounted by officers who used every opportunity to jerk him around unmercifully. Meanwhile, at least 5 more UC Berkeley police came running.

Finally, after the doors of California Hall were locked and everyone (20 or so people) confined outside the building, one person was allowed to

deliver the petition. Shortly after, he returned,

saying he was told that the petition must be taken to President David Pierpont Gardner's secretary in University Hall. Chancellor Heyman, it was said, didn't have responsibility for this affair.

The buck was passed. But even if the petitioner had been more gracefully received, would it really have made a difference? Does anyone really believe that passive resistance will work? Can it seriously be hoped that Gardner, Heyman or the Regents will respond to a few signatures on a piece of paper?

Some urged a further march to deliver the petition to University Hall, but someone pointed out that the whole action was meant to be purely symbolic anyway.

The petition was left on the door of California Hall. Did UC fit? Thanks Socrates.

HOMELESS EVICTED FROM OUTSIDE (cont. from page 1)

a last push to clean up Berkeley's streets and smash the homeless movement before the students come to town. Only two weeks earlier the Berkeley police busted a squat at 1903 6th St. that has been occupied for 4 months by a group of homeless activists. The police harassment on Telegraph and in People's Park continues and it seems like the arrests in that area have increased lately.

In response to the bust about 100 people gathered in Ho Chi Minh (Willard) Park on Wednesday evening for free hamburgers that Michael Delincourt donated to all the hungry folks who saw the flyers that were put up

around town. Later, a group of protestors marched down to Mayor Hancock's house, but unfortunately she wasn't home. A banner that said "In Berkeley it is a crime to be poor" was left at her front door and several of her "Housing is a Human Right Day Proclamations" with her signature on it were left to remind her what she had once signed.

Loniville wasn't the first homeless tent city in MLK Park. There were Reaganville I and II in 1987 which were both busted by the cops after several months. What led to Loniville was the eviction of the Tenth St. Collective on March 8, 1988, a squatted house that was the home of a group of committed homeless activists. The day after this illegal eviction without notice, hundreds of supporters took over a UC owned abandoned house after a demonstration against UC's ties to South Africa's Apartheid regime. The following week homeless, students and other supporters started to fix up the house that stood empty for eight years to turn it into a home for the homeless as well as a community space for everyone else. This process was abruptly stopped a week later when 80 police officers stormed the house without warning on March 16. The next day UC bulldozed the house within two hours, so they wouldn't have to spend all that \$ on cops to protect the house from the homeless. (In order to protect the house they had to destroy it...)

Ten days later a tent city was organized in Ho Chi Minh (Willard) Park to get the people from the Haste St. House back together, but the police came in once more in the early morning to arrest the people who refused to leave the park. The next evening the activists returned to Ho Chi Minh Park and, although they didn't intend to spend the night there, the police arrested 8 of them at 10 P.M., the park's curfew. After that, the city offered the use of MLK Park for Loniville.

The Struggle continues.



correction: ↓

In issue #12 from July 14, we printed in the "Anarchist Unconvention in Toronto" article that an undercover cop burned the american flag at the demonstration against the shooting of the iranian airliner. From different sources we heard that this was not true and that it is just another example of the exaggerated paranoia that lasted throughout the gathering.

Other criticism we got was that we made it sound like we are against burning american flags. We want to apologize for the mistake and any confusion we might have caused with that article. Furthermore I want to point out that we do support the burning of the american flag, since one of the author of the article is a convicted flagburner himself.



NY Cops Make Room for YUPPIES ^{from}

Commissioner Henry J. Stern. "Because it's unique as a political park. A few months ago, President Reagan was impeached by the people here. Periodically various Americans are put on trial for war crimes. If you read the posters in the park, you'd think that revolution was imminent."

Its vitality and diversity threatened by the encroaching tide of gentrification, the East Village is home to older East European settlers, progressive political groups, musicians, homeless people, punkrockers, artists, drug salesmen, drug appreciators, drug abusers and, increasingly, yuppie scum.

A man who identified himself only as Ralph said: "This is a class war. This is an act of violence against the people on the Lower East Side. This wasn't organized by anyone. This was supposed to be a peaceful demonstration and it turned into six hours of chaos."

The riot stirred deep emotion in the East Village. Wednesday night more than 600 protesters, angrily chanting, marched from a

neighborhood church to the 9th Precinct. Once there police officials refused to meet with them and offered to meet only with a group of representatives.

At major events handled by the police department in recent years, successful counter-insurgency strategies have included careful planning by top officials, tight supervision, and large doses of manpower. Stung by ugly confrontations like the Columbia student protests of 1968, the New York police have developed a host of training programs in crowd control and other tactics to diffuse social unrest. This time around though, the demonstrators rebuffed police efforts to negotiate and cut deals with organizers before the action.

Police Commissioner Ward disclosed that such basic precautions as re-routing traffic from the streets around the park were not taken. He said mounted officers moved toward the crowd too quickly and a helicopter lingered too long overhead, throwing up debris and drawing more crowds.

Perhaps most significantly, Mr. Ward said, no one seemed to be in charge of directing officers who arrived on the scene. Police veterans said such lack of supervision inevitably leaves officers more vulnerable in tense or violent situations.

"Once a cop gets stoned or something like that, it doesn't take much for him to feel he's personally under attack, not the whole line but him personally, and to be afraid," said a former Manhattan borough commander who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Some are inclined to view the police's nightstick rampage not as an accident or a tactical error, but as a military escalation to drive poor people back freeing more territory for repopulation by the more influential yuppies. In such a scenario, the protesters are not just do-gooders, but the resistance to the consolidation of privilege by a repressive and exploitative class interest.



Police officers beating a bystander as he stood outside store near Tompkins

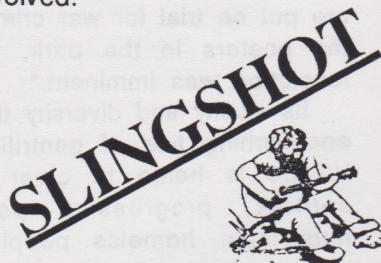
ORIENTATION

DIS

SLINGSHOT is working now on a special Disorientation Issue for the first week of school. We'll be printing 5,000 copies of 8-12 Daily Cal size pages on newsprint. We're also organizing a disorienting happening on Biko Plaza and tour of campus for the first Wednesday, August 31. Here's how you can help or get involved:

- write an article
- draw a graphic
- help with typing
- buy or sell an ad in Disorientation (\$4 a column inch)
- donate MONEY for printing costs
- buy a SLINGSHOT -shirt
- find us access to free xeroxing
- help choreograph the happening
- lead part of the tour

Contact us through our box in 700 Eshelman or come to our office in 600E Eshelman on Monday, August 15 at 7pm.



MEXICANS, KOREANS TAKING To the STREETS

On August 15 there will be a National Day of Action throughout Mexico to protest the election fraud that helped PRI's candidate Salinas de Gortari to win the elections. For the past 60 years the institutionalized Revolutionary Party has been in power, and it is about time to de-institutionalize the revolution.

On the same day there will be another march of the Korean students from the University of Seoul to the border of North Korea, where they want to meet with North Korean students to talk about different issues that concern them, including reunification of North and South Korea. In June a similar march was planned but the 10,000 students were brutally attacked by the police at the University of Seoul. Heavy rioting spread throughout the country. Since then South Korea agreed to meet with North Korean delegates to talk about the issues raised by the students. But that doesn't mean the march won't be attacked again. The students feel they have a certain protection from the international media that is in Korea for the

Olympics, but they expect heavy repression after the Olympics, and many of them plan to go underground.

The Slingshot wants to express our solidarity with with the struggles of the Korean students and the Mexican people against their oppressors and we will carefully follow the news that day.

Sei the Whales

Iceland is killing hundreds of Fin and Sei Whales in defiance of a world-wide ban on commercial whaling. This slaughter could not continue without the backing of the Icelandic Fishing Industry. Ask Burger King, Wendy's and Long John Silver's to stop buying fish from Iceland until Iceland stops killing whales.

DEMONSTRATION:
BURGER KING
1200 MARKET ST.
SAN FRANCISCO
Information: GREENPEACE
474-6768

AUGUST 16,

12:00 NOON